*Bank of the N. P. Channel.*

593. *MR. THEROOR S MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the bank of the N. P. channel between Kulasekharanputhoor (Theroor pakuthi) and Marungur in the Agastisvaram taluk forms the main road to many villages, *viz.*, Kulasekharanputhoor, Sivagnanapuram, Ramapuram, Andarkulam, Kothankulam, Adhalavilai, Pasuthozhuthuvilai, Sankaramputhur, Thevacolam, Kannancheri, Kottavilai, Alaganapuram, Marungur, Eraviputhoor, etc;

(*b*) whether they are aware that it is an important road deserving metalling and better maintenance than at present;

(*c*) what is the length of the road from Kulasekharanputhur to Marungur; and

(*d*) what is the maintenance amount for this portion of the road per year at present?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No. The channel bank roads are not generally intended for heavy cart traffic.

(*c*) 3 1/2 miles.

(*d*) Rs. 194.

MR. THEROOR S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI: Are the Government aware that this road being one which connects many villages, is an important road and requires maintenance?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: Government are not aware that this is an important road.

MR. THEROOR S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI: When the Government admit that it serves so many villages, is it not up to Government to make enquiries about the condition of the road?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: Enquires have been made and it is found that it is a road of only local importance.

MR. V. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Thovala* cum *Agastisvaram*): May I know whether he has visited that road before?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: Information about that road is available with me.

MR. V. S. KRISHNA PILLAI: My question is whether he has visited that road.

MR. K. K. KARTHA: The Chief Engineer has visited that road and recorded his opinion.

*Communal Enactments.*

594. *MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of communal enactments in the State;

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(*b*) the number of communal Bills pending in both the Houses of the Legislature ; and

(*c*) whether the Government have received any representation as to the necessity of having a common law for the Hindus of the State ?

**MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*) :

(*a*) 16.

(*b*) 3. One Bill in the Assembly and two in the Council.

(*c*) Yes.

**MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** : With reference to the answer to part (*c*) of the question, may I know from the member from whom the representations have been received by Government ?

**MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLI** : From a number of people.

**MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** : May I know whether any action has been taken with regard to such representations?

**MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI** : The matter is under the consideration of Government.

**PRESIDENT** : As a matter of fact, I indicated yesterday that the Government are considering a large number of Bills that come up on behalf of various communities. Some of these communities feel that their view points are not adequately considered either because of the smallness of their number or because there are not adequate number of adherents to their cause in this House or elsewhere. Therefore, Government are considering if they cannot have one kind of common enactment for many of those communities.

*Hospitals and dispensaries in the State.*

595. ❋ **MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the total number of doctors, nurses and midwives in the State ;

(*b*) the total number of beds in the hospitals and dispensaries in the State ; and

(*c*) whether Government would furnish the members with a list of the hospitals and dispensaries with the respective number of doctors, midwives and beds in each of them.

**DR. S. JOHN** (*Surgeon-General*) : (*a*) Information is not available. But so far as the Medical and Public Health Departments are concerned, the number is as follows:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Doctors | ... | 223 |
| Nurses | .... | 218 |
| Midwives | ... | 154. |

(*b*) 3,173.

(*c*) The list is laid on the Secretary's table.

*This is the sanctioned strength.

**MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI** : May I know whether at any time the Department has conducted a survey with regard to the adequacy of medical service in the State ?

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